

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Bimbrich et al.
Appl. No. : 09/782,366
Filed : 02/13/01
Title : HYDROPHILIC ADDITIVE

Grp./A.U. : 1771
Examiner : L. Salvatore

Docket No. : C 2220 US

I hereby certify that this paper is being furnished in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the
Patent and Trademark Office.

Washington, DC 20201

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This paper is in response to the restriction requirement of the
Examiner's Office dated 02/13/01.

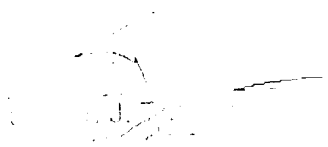
The Examiner has made a restriction requirement of the invention of Group I, claims 1-19, and the invention of Group II, claims 20-31. The Examiner has indicated that the invention of Group I, claims 1-19, is directed to increasing the hydrophilicity of a polymer, classified in Class 525, subclass 75. The invention of Group II, claims 20-31 is said to be directed to a non-woven fabric, classified in Class 442, subclass 414.

The inventions are said to be distinct, each from the other because the intermediate polymer product is deemed to be useful as an extruded film and the inventions are deemed patentably distinct since there is nothing on this record to show them to be obvious variants.

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The requirement is thus respectfully traversed and reconsideration and withdrawal thereof is requested. However, in order to comply with the requirement of Rule 142, Applicant is provisionally electing the invention of Group 1, claims 1-10, with traverse, for further examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,



Patent Dept
Cognis Corp.
Serving the Chemical Industry